

# WANTS TO CONFRONT HUSBAND

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told me he was investigating the case for a New York paper. I have not been served with any papers in the annulment procedure and the statements he makes in them are made to get even with me for leaving him.

"After he was arrested in New Brunswick in December, 1924, he threatened to get me if I left him. Riehl told some of my friends that he did not marry me for love but to live with me and get the inside of the unsolved murder.

## Mrs. Hall Innocent

"Mrs. Hall is as innocent as I am. When they say she was driven to the scene of the murder on the night the crime was committed they lie. I was in the house and I saw no one leave. There is a statement that she sent her clothes to a dyeing establishment on the night of the murder. There is nothing to it. It is another of those damn lies.

"They say there were frequent fights between Dr. Hall and Mrs. Hall. I never heard of any. There were little disputes but nothing serious. Dr. Hall was a grand old man to the servants.

"I defy Prosecutor Toolan or the authorities to bring Riehl before me and explain the statements he has made in the newspapers."

Judge Peter F. Daly speaking of the murder stories being published in the Mirror said, "If Peter Tumulty knew anything about a murder having been committed, if he had seen one committed he would consider it his obligation to his church and humanity to publish the fact to the world. Peter Tumulty is just one of the old Irish type who go to church, confession and communion regularly and who feels that a murder is not only a crime against man, but is a crime against God."

## Didn't Seem Normal

Earl Pullen of the Lauter Piano Company of Newark, in charge of the fifteen stores in New Jersey, was questioned about Riehl.

Pullen said: "I read the stories today and Friday and knowing the man as I do I was willing to discount them at least seventy-five per cent. I would doubt anything the man has said in his statement except possibly the fact that she wouldn't live with him and that she was married to him.

"He didn't seem normal to me and at one time ran about with a sheriff's badge. He had unusual notions about the sheriff's badge and what it meant. I made him take it off. He used to write the most foolish stuff, poetry about life and on one occasion I had an opportunity to see a letter he was writing to his mother. It was the craziest thing I ever saw."

## Riehl's Arrest

Pullen explained Riehl's arrest on

the charge of embezzlement. Riehl was employed in the local store and sometime prior to December 20, 1924, a talking machine was missing from the store. A check was made and Riehl was charged with having taken it. It was later returned. It had been at Geist's home. Riehl had given it to Louise for a present.

Louise's cousin Rose, stated that Louise "bawled out" Riehl at the time and told him she would have nothing more to do with him. Riehl threatened then, according to Rose, that if she turned him down he'd "get even" with her.

There is nothing about the Geist home to indicate that she has any wealth, that she has any source of wealth other than her own earning powers. The house is very modestly furnished.

Rose explained the selling price of the farm as mentioned in the New York Daily Mirror a few days ago. She stated that someone came to their place apparently with the idea of buying the property for development purposes. He asked her what she would take for the farm and she says that is just the way he said it—and she replied that for her part she'd take \$50,000. He thought she was joking then and repeated his request saying it was too much. She said \$18,000 and he accepted that as the figure.

The family lives on the income from the truck patch farmed by Mrs. Helen Geist, the mother, and her niece Rose, and the earn-

ings of a son. The stock on the farm consists of chickens, a few ducks and a cow.

## As to Tumulty

Tumulty has been a resident of New Brunswick for at least a quarter of a century and he has always been known as Tumulty and not Tomelty as the newspaper states.

It was charged that Louise Geist deceived the prosecutor and grand jury in testifying that Tumulty worked for only three weeks for the Halls when the murder was committed. The New York newspaper asserts that its investigation showed that Tumulty actually had worked for the Halls for a year and a half before the crime.

It is a known fact that Tumulty was only employed about a month by Mrs. Hall prior to the time the murder was committed. He was employed in the capacity of a chauffeur and gardener at the Hall estate. The Mirror said:

"When Tomelty testified before the grand jury he was not asked how long he had been employed by the Halls. (This was one glaring example of the farcical nature of the grand jury investigation). Tomelty's answers were misleading and gave the impression that he had worked for the Halls only a short while."

In New Jersey, grand jury sessions are secret and no information is given to the public concerning what transpires in the grand jury room.